

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



is re application of

Michael HOLZ, Joerg MOISEL and Manfred RODE

Application No.: 10/722,001

Filed: November 25, 2003

For: **VEHICLE HEADLIGHT AND PROCESS FOR OPERATION THEREOF**

Attorney Docket No.: 3926.060

Customer No. 000041288

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97 and §1.98**

Mail Stop

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56, Applicants hereby notify the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the following documents for the above-identified application. Copies of the documents set forth below and listed on the attached Form PTO-1449, are provided herewith.

1. German Patent No. 40 40 264 A1
2. German Patent No. 43 35 244 A1
3. German Patent No. 100 27 018 A1
4. U.S. Patent No. 6,467,940 B2

Document 4 is in the English language. The relevancy of the Non-English documents is explained below.

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

Document 1

Applicants are not aware of any English language equivalent documents for document 1, other than an English language Abstract which is attached.

Document 1 teaches a lamp (10) comprising a reflector housing (11) with lamp bulb attached to the generator (19) housing containing a small turbine (30) coupled to a generator. The compressed air supply to the lamp passes first around the lamp bulb within the reflector housing to act as coolant and then through internal passages to the turbine. A pressure relief valve maintains the correct pressure for the compressed air. Sealing washers are used throughout and the lamp is explosion-proof and fire-damp-proof.

According to an Office Action in the corresponding German patent application, the searchlight is operated by air pressure, thus, the housing must necessarily be air-tight. If the housing breaks, the air does not drive the turbine, and the searchlight stops working. Such a turbine wheel might be considered a motor component. Since the control thereof depends upon the air pressure in the housing, this reference is relevant to claim 1, as well as claims 2 and 3.

Applicants submit that Document 1 is not relevant to claim 1 as amended in the Preliminary Amendment, since Claim 1 is now directed to an automobile headlight, which is very different from a searchlight.

Document 2

Applicants are not aware of any English language equivalent documents for document 2, other than an English language Abstract which is attached below.

Document 2 concerns a device for improving the visibility for cars has an illumination device comprising a linearly polarized source of light using a semi-conducting laser and a lens to produce a light beam. The lens is a collector lens with a large surface area and has a focal length approximately equal to the distance of the source from it. There are also a number of tightly joined micro-lenses of equal focal lengths, but small compared with that of the collector lens, arranged to form a flat element. For the polarization of the light, separate cylinder lens structures are used on opposite sides of a common lens. The collector lens has a Fresnel structure. The micro-lenses are scattering lenses.

In the German Office Action in the corresponding German application, Document 2 was merely cited as relevant to Claim 5-Fresnel lens.

Document 3

Document 3 teaches a headlight for a vehicle operating in accordance with projection principle has a light source, a reflector which reflects a light emitted by the light source as a light bundle, a screening device arranged in a path of rays of the light bundle reflected by the reflector and producing a bright-dark limit of the light exiting the headlight in visible

wavelength region, a lens arranged after the screening direction in a light outlet direction so that the light reflected by the reflector passes through the lens, the screening device at least locally being at least partially permeable for light in infrared wavelength region has a greater range than light passing over the screening device in visible wavelength region.

Document 4 is an English language document in the patent family of Document 3.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after three months from the application's filing date but before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, therefore no Certification Under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) is required.

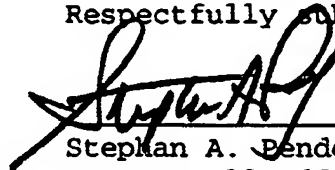
The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedated or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

U.S. PATENT APPLICATION
SERIAL NO.: 10/722,001
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

ATTY DOCK: 3926.060

Applicant respectfully requests that the listed documents be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO-1449 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

Respectfully submitted,


Stephan A. Pendorf
Reg. No. 32, 665

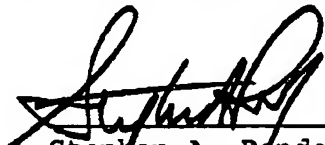
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Dated: April 13, 2004

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING AND AUTHORIZATION TO CHARGE

I hereby certify that the foregoing INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT Form PTO-1449, including four (4) documents, for U.S. Application No. 10/722,001 filed November 25, 2003, were deposited in first class U.S. mail, postage prepaid, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on April 13, 2004.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required at any time during the prosecution of this application without specific authorization, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 16-0877.


Stephan A. Pendorf

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION

(Use several sheets if necessary)

Docket Number (Optional)

3926.060

Application Number

10/722,001

Applicant(s)

Michael Holz et al.

Filing Date

11/25/2003

Group Art Unit

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
		940 B2	10/22/2002	Eschler et al.	F21V	11/00	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	Translation	
						YES	NO
	40 40 264 A1	6/25/1992	Germany	F21S	9/04		✓
	43 35 244 A1	6/22/1995	Germany	G02B	3/02		✓
	100 27 029 A1	12/6/2001	Germany	F21S	8/12		✓

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

XAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

XAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP Section 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.